

types of logical structures and for said document instance, a plurality of entity declarations which respectively designate said defined logical structures;

validating one of said entity declarations of said document type definition to validate a corresponding one of said element declarations of said document type definition; and

creating said structured document having the contents of said document instance in said one logical structure that is defined by said corresponding validated element declaration.

SUB D2

2. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A structured document creation method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, for each of the plurality of entity declarations, control information indicating whether the entity declaration is valid or invalid is additionally described.

3. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A structured document creation method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plurality of different logical structures include a logical structure form layout and a table form layout.

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4. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A structured document creation method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the plurality of different logical structures include a logical structure form layout and a table form layout.

5. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A structured document creation method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the structured document is a Standard Generalized Markup Language document and the document type definition is a Document Type Definition which defines a document structure of the Standard Generalized Markup Language.

6. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A structured document creation method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the structured document is a Standard Generalized Markup Language document and the document type definition is a Document Type Definition which defines a document structure of the Standard Generalized Markup Language.

7. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A structured document creation method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the structured document is a Standard Generalized Markup Language document and the document type definition is a Document Type Definition which defines a document

structure of the Standard Generalized Markup Language.

8. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A structured document creation method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the structured document is a Standard Generalized Markup Language document and the document type definition is a Document Type Definition which defines a document structure of the Standard Generalized Markup Language.

SUB B27

9. (AS ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium on which a structured document created in accordance with a predetermined document type definition is recorded;

the structured document being recorded in a data file formed on said recording medium;

the data file at least having a region in which the document type definition which defines a document structure of said structured document is recorded and another region in which a document instance which presents contents of the document are recorded;

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a plurality of element declarations which respectively define a plurality of types of logical structures for said document instance, and a plurality of entity declarations which respectively designate said defined logical structures being described in said region in which the document type definition is recorded;

for each of the plurality of entity declarations, information which indicates whether the entity declaration is valid or invalid being additionally described.

SUB D47

10. (AS UNAMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 9, wherein the plurality of different logical structures include a logical structure form layout and a table form layout.

11. (AS UNAMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 9, wherein the structured document is a Standard Generalized Markup Language document and the document type definition is a Document Type Definition which defines a document structure of the Standard Generalized Markup Language.

12. (AS UNAMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium as claimed in claim 10, wherein the structured document is a Standard Generalized Markup Language document and

AA the document type definition is a Document Type Definition which defines a document structure of the Standard Generalized Markup Language.

Please ADD the following new claim 13:

SUB B37 13. (AS NEW) A computer-readable medium storing a program which, when executed by a computer, causes the computer to execute functions of a structured document creation method for creating a structured document in accordance with a predetermined document type definition, comprising:

A2 preparing a document instance which presents a contents of said structured document, and a document type definition which defines a document structure of said structured document, including a plurality of element declarations which respectively define a plurality of types of logical structures and for said document instance, a plurality of entity declarations which respectively designate said defined logical structures;

validating one of said entity declarations of said document type definition to validate a corresponding one of said element declarations of said document type definition; and

creating said structured document having the contents of said document instance in said one logical structure that is defined by said corresponding validated element declaration.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed December 13, 2001, the Examiner noted that claims 1-12 were pending in the application; objected to the drawings; and rejected claims 1-12 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Sato et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,014,680).

In response to the subject action, claims 1-9 are amended, and new claim 13 is added. Care has been exercised to avoid introduction of new matter.

Claims 1-13 are pending in the present application; claims 1, 9, and 13 are independent claims. Claims 2-8 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1, and claims 10-12 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 9.

The foregoing rejections of pending claims 1-12 are respectfully traversed.

The drawings are objected to as not showing every feature of the invention specific in